LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method for asynchronous brokering of messages between middleware computing systems, comprising:

a) receiving a message sent from a first application into a first middleware computing system**, the first middleware computing system facilitating data exchange among a first group of disparate applications comprising the first application and one or more applications**;

b) converting the message from a native language format of the first application to a native language format of the first middleware computing system;

~~b~~ c) receiving the message sent from the first middleware computing system into a middleware brokering server;

d) converting the message from the native language format of the first middleware computing system to a standard format of the middleware brokering server;

e) converting the message from the standard format of the middleware brokering server to a native language format of a second middleware computing system, the second middleware computing system facilitating data exchange among a second group of disparate applications comprising a second application and one or more applications;

e f) sending the message from the middleware brokering server to ~~a~~ **the** second middleware computing system that receives the message; ~~and~~

g) converting the message from the native language format of the second middleware computing system to a native language format of the second application; and

~~d~~ h) sending the message from the second middleware computing system to ~~a~~ **the** second application that receives the message.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the sending first middleware computing system and the receiving second middleware computing system are selected from the group consisting of a mainframe system, a CORBA compliant system, and a JMS system.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2 wherein the sending first middleware computing system communicates with the middleware brokering server via point to point messaging and wherein the middleware brokering server communicates with the receiving second middleware computing system via publish and subscribe messaging.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the sending first middleware computing system of a first message is the receiving second middleware computing system of a second message.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3 wherein the receiving second middleware computing system of a first message is the sending first middleware computing system of a second message.

6. **(Cancelled)**

7. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim **6** **1** wherein the message is converted from the native language format **of the sending first middleware computing system** by mapping a plurality of fields in the native format into corresponding fields in the ~~**structured event message**~~ **standard format of the middleware brokering server**.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 7 wherein the native ~~message~~ **language** format **of the sending first middleware computing system** is ~~a~~ selected from the group consisting of a Cobol copybook, JMS TextMessage, JMS BytesMessage; JMS MapMessage; JMS ObjectMessage; and JMS StreamMessage.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the sending first middleware computing system is a mainframe system and the native ~~message~~ **language** format is a COBOL copybook.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the sending first middleware computing system is a JMS system and the native ~~message~~ **language** format is a JMS MapMessage.

11. - 13 **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~11~~ **1** wherein the message is converted from the ~~structured event message~~ **standard** format **of the middleware brokering server** by mapping a plurality of fields in the ~~structured event~~ **standard** format into corresponding fields in the native language format **of the receiving second middleware computing system**.

15. - 16 **(Cancelled)**

17. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~16~~ **14** wherein the native ~~message~~ **language** format **of the receiving second middleware computing system** is ~~a~~ selected from the group consisting of a Cobol copybook, JMS TextMessage, JMS BytesMessage; JMS MapMessage; JMS ObjectMessage; and JMS StreamMessage.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~16~~ **14** wherein the ~~sending first~~ **receiving second** middleware computing system is a mainframe system and the native ~~message~~ **language** format is a COBOL copybook.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim ~~16~~ **14** wherein the ~~sending first~~ **receiving second** middleware computing system is a JMS system and the native ~~message~~ **language** format is a JMS MapMessage.

20. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the publish and subscribe messaging further comprises a push-pull paradigm across at least one messaging channel.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20 further comprising designating quality of service attributes when configuring the channel.

22. **(New)** The method of claim 1 wherein the standard format of the middleware brokering server is a structured event message format.